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[Inclosure.]

Number and causes of deaths in Ponce jurisdiction (city, playa, and surrounding country) for the two weeks ended March 10, 1900.

Infectious diseases—	Deaths.
Tuberculosis.....	13
Malarial fever	9
Tetanus	3
Erysipelas.....	2
Dysentery.....	2
Measles	1
Typhoid fever.....	1
Diphtheria.....	1
Diseases of the digestive apparatus.....	29
Diseases of the circulatory system.....	2
Diseases of the respiratory system.....	3
Diseases of the nervous system.....	0
Other diseases (anæmia, inanition, etc.).....	31
Total.....	97
Births in the same period.....	49

Report from San Juan.

SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO, *March 14, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit consolidated report of the operations of the Service at this station and the 5 subports of the island for the month of February, 1900.

During the month there were 77 births and 89 deaths reported. For the same month of 1899 there were 71 births and 78 deaths. The usual list of the causes of deaths for the month is herewith inclosed.

Forty-nine vessels were inspected during the month, two of which were held in quarantine, viz, the Spanish steamer *Cataluna*, which arrived from Havana on February 3, and the United States transport *Kilpatrick*, also from Havana, which arrived on February 27. The former transacted business in quarantine and departed in the afternoon of the same day. Five nonimmune local passengers were held in detention at the Miraflores station to complete the five days' period. The *Kilpatrick* was placed in quarantine to complete the five days' period of observation from Havana, after which she was allowed to go alongside of the quartermaster's wharf, where she loaded mules for New York.

During the month 68 pieces of baggage were disinfected, 16 pieces from the *Cataluna*, 2 pieces from the *Kilpatrick*, and 50 pieces from the *San Agustin* which arrived on February 21, from Havana via South and Central American ports.

Vaccination certificates are still being issued and viséed for persons leaving on the transports. A thorough inspection of all passengers and baggage from Spanish ports is being made. The health of this city and vicinity continues fair, and there are no infectious diseases.

A few minor improvements have been added to the Miraflores station during the past few weeks. The formaldehyd gas disinfecting room has been fitted up with 24 compartments, each large enough to hold the contents of a trunk, and so arranged that the clothing can be hung up and all surfaces exposed to the gas. A rough frame dining room and a shed kitchen have also been constructed for the use of the hospital camp. Electric bells have been installed in the detention building.

A ship's bell has been purchased for the station, so that the time of day can be indicated, and also for use as a fire alarm. Galvanized iron fire buckets have also been provided to guard against fire. A small

rowboat was purchased for use as a dispatch boat for the station to replace the one which was stolen in December, but which was recovered and returned to the station on February 23.

The subports report nothing unusual during the month. They were notified officially, by circular letter from this office, of the existence of the plague in the island of Cozumel, and directed to inspect most carefully any vessel arriving from that locality.

During the month 11 vessels were inspected at Mayaguez, 4 at Humacao, 4 at Aguadilla, 3 at Arecibo, and 1 at Arroyo. For the month Mayaguez reports 121 deaths; Arecibo, 83; Humacao, 63; Aguadilla, 31, and Arroyo, 10.

The weather was much warmer than the preceding month and there was an abundant rainfall throughout the island.

On February 2, Brigadier-General Davis, accompanied by his aide-de camp, visited the station on Miraflores Island and expressed himself as being pleased with the progress of the work.

Respectfully,

C. H. LAVINDER,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Command.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Vital statistics of San Juan, Porto Rico, for February, 1900.

Mitral insufficiency	6
Enteritis	10
Cirrhosis of the liver.....	4
Pneumonia.....	5
Tabes mesenterica.....	2
Athrepsia	3
Dysentery	1
Meningitis	4
Pulmonary tuberculosis	14
Nephritis	1
Cancer of uterus.....	2
Enterocolitis.....	3
Rachitis.	2
Malaria.....	3
Cachexia.....	2
Noma.....	1
Typhoid fever.....	2
Syphilis	1
Tetanus infantum	3
Eclampsia.....	2
Uræmia.....	1
Traumatic shock.....	1
Metritis.....	2
Cerebral anæmia.....	1
Bronchitis.....	2
Septicæmia.....	1
La grippe.....	2
Anæmia	3
Gastric fever	1
Old age.....	1
Burned.....	1
Pernicious fever.....	2
Total.....	89
February, 1899—	
Births	71
Deaths.....	78
February, 1900—	
Births	77
Deaths.....	89